Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8094

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMAMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE 1321

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL DAR ES SALAAM 1309

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY; LAGOS FOR AMB YOUNG

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH UK TZ

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: NEXT STEPS

REF: A. STATE 79045, B. MAPUTO 371, C. DAR 1293

1. IN TALKING OF HOW WE MIGHT COPE WITH FRONT LINE DEMANDS FOR A "MALTA PROLOGUE", AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND I CAME UP WITH THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES BEFORE YOUNG'S DEPARTURE YESTERDAY:

A. A LOWER LEVEL CARVER-CHAND-GRAHAM-LOW
GET TOGETHER WITH THE PF OF THE KIND SUGGESTED IN REF A,
B. A UK-US HIGH LEVEL SPIN-OFF FROM SOME KIND OF BROADER
WESTERN INITIATIVE ON AFRICA, E.G., A WESTERN FIVE FOREIGN
MINISTERS VISIT TO SOUTHERN AFRICA CONNECTED WITH NAMIBIA.

2. A THIRD ELEMENT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED BY MACHEL'S THOUGHTS IN CONFIDENTIAL

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REF B ON THE POSSIBLE "PRELIMINARY" OR "PRIVATE" NATURE OF A MEETING WITH THE PF TO FINISH OFF MALTA PRIOR TO AN ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE.

3. YOUNG AND I VERY INFORMALLY TRIED OUT THE FIRST TWO POSSIBILITIES ON TANZANIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN SALIM JUST PRIOR TO YOUNG'S DEPARTURE. SALIM WAS INTERESTED, SAID HE WOULD CHECK WITH

NYERERE, AND LET US KNOW. HIS OWN REACTION WAS THAT VENUE WAS UNIMPORTANT: MEETING COULD BE ANYWHERE. FORMAT WAS ESSENTIAL: IT HAD TO BE PF AND UK ON MALTA QUESTIONS. PERSONALITIES WERE LESS CERTAIN - NKOMO AND MUGABE WOULD NOT NOW MEET WITH LOWER LEVELS AND ANY DESIGNEES THEY MIGHT SEND WOULD NOT HAVE POWER OF DECISION.

4. OBVIOUSLY BRITISH RESPONSE TO REF A WILL BE CRITICAL. HOWEVER, ALL SIGNS HERE ARE THAT AFRICANS REMAIN INTERESTED IN CONTINUING SEEK POLITICAL SOLUTION RHODESIA, AND THAT, DESPITE THEIR OFFICIAL RETREAT TO DEMANDING A MALTA PROLOGUE AND STRONG PUBLIC POSITION ON THIS, THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE AT LEAST SOMWHAT FLEXIBLE IN TRYING TO WORK OUR ARRANGMENTS FOR IT.

5. VARIABLES NOTED ABOVE, TOGETHER WITH NYERERE'S SUGGESTION TO DIVIDE MEETING IN TERMS OF TIME, SUGGEST WE STILL HAVE FAIR CHANCE OF WORKING SOMETHING OUT AND THAT WE SHOULD PURSUE IT WITH AFRICANS AS SOON AS WE GET BRITISH RESPONSE TO REF A. SPAIN

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